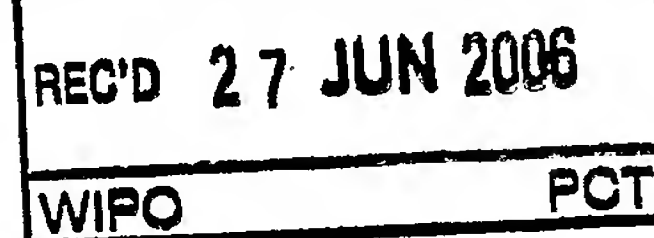


## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY  
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)



Applicant's or agent's file reference P06751PC00	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/SE2005/000463	International filing date (day/month/year) 29-03-2005	Priority date (day/month/year) 29-03-2004
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC See Supplemental Box		
Applicant Svenska Elitskon AB et al		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
  - a. ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 2 sheets, as follows:
    - ☒ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
    - ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
  - b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) \_\_\_\_\_, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- |                                     |              |   |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I    | Basis of the report   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. II   | Priority  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. III  | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. IV   | Lack of unity of invention  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V    | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VI   | Certain documents cited   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VII  | Certain defects in the international application  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application   |

Date of submission of the demand 30-01-2006	Date of completion of this report 21-06-2006
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/SE Patent- och registreringsverket Box 5055 S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Facsimile No. +46 8 667 72 88	Authorized officer  Anette Eriksson / MRO Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/SE2005/000463

Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of: Cover sheet

**International patent classification (IPC)**

**A01L 1/02 (2006.01)**

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/SE2005/000463

## Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on:

the international application in the language in which it was filed

a translation of the international application into \_\_\_\_\_,  
which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))



publication of the international application (Rule 12.4(a))



international preliminary examination (Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

the international application as originally filed/furnished



the description:

pages 1 - 10 as originally filed/furnished

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_



the claims:

pages \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages\* 11 - 12 received by this Authority on 31 - 05 - 2006

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_



the drawings:

pages 1 - 4 as originally filed/furnished

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_



a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_



the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_



the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_

the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_



the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_



the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_

the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

**Box No. V** Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

## 1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1 - 8</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1 - 8</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1 - 8</u>	YES
	Claims		NO

## 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

## INVENTION

The invention relates to a horseshoe. The objects of the invention are to accomplish a horseshoe which is compliant with the natural expansion and relative movement of the hoof of the horse during the hoof's impact with the ground surface and which has high resistance to wear.

The horseshoe is made of a solid homogenous metal. It comprises a toe section, two side sections and two heel sections. At least one bending articulation region is provided in each side section realized by a local structural weakening of the horseshoe. The horseshoe follows the hoof's natural expansion in radially outward directions and the upward/downward motions relating to the hoof's rotating motion during impact, from heel to toe.

## CITED DOCUMENT

D1: US 6263973 B1

## DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Claims 1-8

D1 relates to a horseshoe comprising opposed mirror-image left and right branches (20, 30) connected by a bridge (40).

.../...

## Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of: BOX V

An object of the invention is to achieve a horseshoe that attaches to a healthy hoof in a standard manner, but which is adaptable to a damaged or unhealthy hoof in a different manner, particularly taking into account the thinner structure of such hoofs. Another object is to achieve a horseshoe that is more flexible when attached to the damaged hoof, thereby promoting healing and comfort through a more natural pressure relief and maximized blood circulation. A further object is to achieve a horseshoe which responds to the expansion of the horse's hoof when weight is applied.

This is obtained by the bridge portion (40) which is flexible enough that the left and right branches are able to move with respect to each other in response to the "splaying" or radial expansion of the horse's hoof when weight is applied. Scribe marks (50) defined on the inner portions of the lower surface of the bridge (40) act as a quick reference guide to indicate varying degrees to which the bridge may be ground away, thereby resulting in a horseshoe of varying degrees of flexibility.

Further in D1, the flexible bridge (40) interacts with a tapered region (90) defined on a lower surface of each of the branches which tends to cause a radially outward force when weight is applied.

Also, the flexible bridge interacts with the at least two nail patterns (60, 70), since the magnitude of the radially outward force applied by the horse's hoof can be varied according to the thickness of the bridge and also according to which nail pattern is used. A groove (80) defined in the lower surface of each of the branches (20, 30) links the nail holes of the inner and/or outer nail hole patterns (60, 70) and tends to promote traction.

The invention in claim 1 differs from the one in D1 in that the toe section is rigid as compared to the two side sections.

The problem starting from D1 is thus to provide a horseshoe that follows the hoof's upward/downward motion relating to the hoof's rotating motion during impact.

.../...

## Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of: Box V

D1 does not disclose the characteristics in the characterising part of claim 1. Consequently, there is no teaching in D1 leading a skilled person to the invention and therefore the claimed invention is not considered obvious for a person skilled in the art.

Therefore, claims 1-8 filed with the letter of 2006-05-31 are considered to meet the criteria of novelty and inventive step. The invention is industrially applicable.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/SE2005/000463

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

Claim 4 seems to correspond to what is disclosed in the characterising part of claim 1.